GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1547
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2002
DEFICIENCY OF VITAMIN A .
GADDAM GANGA REDDY;M. JAGANNATH

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce fortification of sugar with vitamin-A to reduce its deficiency in the population suffering from eye disorders;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad, has recommended that to fortify sugar with vitamin-A to balance the diet of those suffering from eye disorders; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to made available the fortified sugar to the children particularly living below poverty line?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) to (d) A Working Group has been constituted by Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, to look into the progress of pilot study on the effect of fortified sugar on targeted population in a selected area.

Following the recommendations of the above Group, a Pilot Plant for fortification of sugar with Vitamin A has been set up a Shirpur, Maharastra with the financial support from the Sugar Development Fund, for production of fortified sugar with Vitamin A.

The plant has produced 5 quintals of fortified sugar with Vitamin A during 2000-2001. The efficacy of this sugar has not yet been tested.

NIN, Hyderabad, has not recommended fortification of sugar with Vitamin A as a National Programme. -